

Historic, Archive Document

Do not assume content reflects current scientific knowledge, policies, or practices.

AD 1751
AIE 6

ERS NEWSLETTER

A Bimonthly Newsletter for Economic Research Service Employees and Colleagues

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
WASHINGTON, DC

VOLUME 6, NUMBER 1
FEBRUARY/MARCH 1988

Mayer Named Deputy Assistant Secretary

Leo Mayer was recently named deputy assistant secretary for economics by Secretary of Agriculture Richard Lyng.



USDA

Mayer has served in USDA since 1981 as associate administrator of the Foreign Agricultural Service. He succeeds Ewen Wilson, who became assistant secretary for economics.

Prior to joining USDA, Mayer was a senior specialist for agriculture with the Congressional Research Service, senior agricultural adviser with the Office of the U.S. Trade Representative, senior staff economist with the Council of Economic Advisers, and professor of economics at Iowa State U.

Mayer has B.S. and M.S. degrees in agricultural economics from Kansas State U. and a Ph.D. in agricultural economics from Iowa State U. He has authored several books and articles on agriculture and food policy. Mayer has been a guest lecturer in several countries for the U.S. Information Agency and U.S. Dept. of State.

Australia's Johnston to Spend a Year in ERS

Brian Johnston, senior economist at the Australian Bureau of Agricultural and Resource Economics (formerly the Bureau of Agricultural Economics), is in ERS under a 1-year exchange program. ERS economist Jerry Sharples is currently at ABARE in Canberra.

During his year in ERS, Johnston will work with the Agricultural and Trade Policy Branch of ERS's Agriculture and Trade Analysis Division. His research will include a study of changing competitiveness of U.S. and Australian agriculture in world trade (a joint project with Sharples) and a study of the payoff to agricultural trade liberalization.

At ABARE, Johnston is head of the Rural Production Economics Branch. His research interests include supply response analysis, quantification of returns to agricultural research, and resource issues such as soil erosion and soil salinity.



CAROLYN RILEY

Johnston holds a B.Agr.Sc. degree from Massey U. (New Zealand), an M.S. in economics from the U. of New England (Armidale), and a Ph.D. from the Australian National U. (Canberra).

Current Research

Irrigated Agriculture Studied

ERS researchers have published three reports on irrigated agriculture that describe and analyze the principal features of irrigated farming in the United States; its growth, location, and importance to agricultural production; sources and location of water used; and the types of irrigation equipment used in the sector.

Irrigated land accounts for 13 percent of harvested cropland acreage nationwide and contributes about 30 percent of the value of cropland production to fruits, vegetables, and other specialty crops.

Other work underway in ERS relates to estimation of agricultural water supply and demand, water management and the extent of water savings from conservation, factors affecting the adoption of more efficient irrigation technology and management practices, and assessments of the impact of public programs and policies on the use and quality of water in agriculture.

For more information, contact John Hostetler (786-1410).

In this issue . . .

Current research, 1
Administrator's letter, 3
Personnel notes, 4
Highlights of staff activities, 6

ERS and CFTC Monitor Commodity Markets

ERS economists are assisting the Commodities Futures Trading Commission with its monitoring and surveillance of commodity markets.

ERS will provide the CFTC with quarterly briefings on the agricultural outlook, participate in the Commission's regular weekly reviews, and provide special analysis, as requested through USDA's Office of the Assistant Secretary for Economics. The first such special analysis, by John Ginzel (786-1830) and Kevin Bost, was on 1986/87 developments in the pork belly market.

Decade of Change in Agricultural Input Industry Reviewed

A recent report by Stan Daberkow (786-1458) reviews a decade of change in the agricultural input industry.

According to *Agricultural Input Industry Indicators in 1974-85* (AIB-534), the U.S. input manufacturing and distribution industries during the 1970's expanded employment, capacity, and inventory, spurred by growth in the agricultural export markets. These same export markets, however, contracted in the 1980's.

In response, the pesticide, seed, fertilizer, and farm machinery industries reduced production, prices, capital expenditures, employment, and excess plant capacity; adjusted corporate growth and acquisition strategies; diversified; and expanded sales in international markets.

At least two factors, however, may slow the contraction or even promote growth in the domestic input industries. First, where agricultural acreage or productivity are increasing abroad, input sales opportunities can often substitute for lost sales in the United States.

Second, research and development in input industries, particularly for seeds and chemicals, may provide new technology that reduces costs and enhances the comparative advantage of U.S. farmers and input firms.

Small World Macroeconomic Model Being Developed

ERS economists James Malley (786-1283) and John Foster and David Bell (U. of Glasgow) are building a small world macroeconomic model to analyze and forecast the macroeconomic implications of U.S. trade and budget deficits on the U.S. and world agricultural economies.

The model comprises the G-7 countries (United States, United Kingdom, Canada, France, Italy, Japan, and the Federal Republic of Germany); four sectors (households, business, government, and foreign); and four traded goods (primary commodities less fuel, fuel, manufactures, and services).

Imports of each traded good are determined by behavioral relationships, and exports are allocated by fixed coefficient trade shares. Exchange rates will be determined outside the model, and capital flows for the United States will be examined in the context of the flow-of-funds framework. Each country model will contain aggregate demand and supply equations, which allow alternative monetary and fiscal policies as well as demographic and technological changes to be considered in a global context.

ERS to Publish PSE and CSE Estimates

ERS will soon publish a statistical bulletin, *Estimates of Producer and Consumer Subsidy Equivalents: Government Intervention in Agriculture*.

The study provides point estimates of PSE's and CSE's for 16 countries and the European Community during 1982-86, showing the effects of government policies on producer revenue and consumer cost for 150 policies and 30 commodities.

The measures facilitate comparison of agricultural policies among countries, and are widely used in the discussions underway in Geneva within the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT). For more information, contact ERS economist Carl Mabbs-Zeno (786-1680).

Government Intervention in Agriculture Studied

ERS economists Stephen Hiemstra (786-1889) and Mathew Shane are analyzing links between monetary disturbances and increasing government intervention in agriculture in the 1980's. Their findings show that large swings in exchange rates, combined with a rigid price support structure in the early 1980's, helped usher in certain provisions of the *Food Security Act of 1985*, including its trade promotion objectives.

Economic Research Service

Vol. 6, No. 1, Feb./Mar. 1988

Editors:

Verla Rape and Lindsay Mann

Layout and Design:

Carolyn Riley

Production:

Patricia Beavers

Division Representatives:

Lorna Aldrich, Kenneth Baum,
Arthur Dommen, Wyn Francis,
and Charles Hallahan

The *ERS Newsletter* is published bimonthly and distributed free to ERS employees, colleagues, and retirees. Subscription requests and address changes (nine-digit zip code is required) should be addressed to: *ERS Newsletter*, ERS/USDA, Rm. 1212, 1301 New York Ave. NW, Washington, DC 20005-4788 (202-786-3310).

Administrator's Letter—Achieving Excellence in Staff Analyses

In the two most recent issues of this newsletter, I reviewed recent progress toward ERS being a more effective citizen of the professional communities of which we are a part. Improving our staff analyses was another multiyear goal adopted at the 1986 ERS planning conference.



USDA

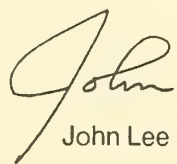
Providing quick turnaround staff analyses for the Administration and Congress represents a unique opportunity for ERS to bring its accumulated research learnings, data, analytic frameworks, and human expertise to bear on the policy issues of the moment. This interaction with policymakers also provides feedback to researchers regarding further research needs and priorities.

When our goal of improved staff analysis was established, we recognized at least two problems. Our responses to requests for staff analyses were too often late, poorly written, or inadequate analytically, or they failed to address the real need of the requestor. Moreover, dealing with the growing number of requests on an *ad hoc* basis was highly disruptive and inefficient.

Accordingly, we established the position of agency staff analysis coordinator in the Office of the Administrator, and a comparable position in each division. By agreement with the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Economics, the agency coordinator (Milton Ericksen) serves as the primary point of entry to ERS for staff analysis requests. Ericksen, in turn, works with the team of division staff analysis coordinators to assign the staff work to the appropriate division or combination of divisions. A tracking and filing system permits monitoring of the status of all unfulfilled requests and retrieval of completed requests. Ericksen also meets with the USDA assistant secretary for economics and his staff weekly to brief them on the status of outstanding requests. Having an ERS team of staff analysis coordinators also provides an opportunity for critiquing how well we are doing and for suggestions on how the process might work better. That team also provides a forum for anticipating the needs of policymakers and thus providing unsolicited but nonetheless timely and useful briefings and analyses.

How have we been doing? ERS received and responded to 273 staff analysis requests in FY 1987. That's about 1.1 per work day. For requests where timing was critical and deadlines were imposed externally, all responses met the deadlines. Ninety-two percent of all requests were delivered within 2 days of internally imposed deadlines. Many of the analyses required input from two or more divisions. The staff work was distributed across divisions as follows: Agriculture and Rural Economy Division—21 percent; Agriculture and Trade Analysis Division—26 percent; Commodity Economics Division—39 percent; and Resources and Technology Division—14 percent. We are also tracking 15 major studies mandated by Congress or the Secretary of Agriculture in FY 1987. Ten of those studies have been completed. As of January 21, we had received requests for 91 staff analyses, or about 1.2 per work day, in FY 1988.

We want to continue to improve our staff analysis performance. One way is to improve the conciseness and quality of writing. To this end, we will be offering some training specifically addressing how to write better briefings and staff reports. Milt Ericksen would appreciate any feedback on other ways to improve both the product and the process.


John Lee

Personnel Notes

Grano Is New CED Associate Director

Anthony Grano is the new associate director of ERS's Commodity Economics Division. Grano joined ERS's former Farm Production Economics Division in



CAROLYN RILEY

1962, where he analyzed and developed projections of production of major crops and types of livestock in the Pacific Northwest. In 1964, he transferred to ERS's former Natural Resource Economics Division to work on river basin planning assistance studies related to water and land resources. There and in the Resources and Technology Division, he held a variety of positions in Washington, D.C., and at several field locations. He has been deputy director, assistant director for field operations, section leader, and field group leader. During 1984-87, he was chief of the Resource Policy Branch.

Grano received B.S. and M.S. degrees in agricultural economics from Montana State U. and a Ph.D. in agricultural economics from the U. of Illinois. He has received two ERS Administrator's Special Merit Awards, one for commitment in achieving the affirmative action

goals of ERS and one for outstanding economic analysis of USDA erosion control programs. He also has received an ERS Excellence Award and USDA's Superior Service Award for timely and innovative economic analysis on the implementation of the Conservation Reserve Program.

Christensen Is New RTD Deputy Director

Cheryl Christensen is the new deputy director for technology and staff analysis coordination in ERS's Resources and Technology Division.

Christensen received a B.A. from the U. of Minnesota and a Ph.D. from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. She taught at the U. of Pittsburgh during 1973-75. In 1976, she was awarded a Council on Foreign Relations fellowship and spent a year in ERS examining global food issues.

Christensen taught at the U. of Maryland from 1977 until 1980 when she joined ERS. She has served as chief of the former Africa and Middle East Branch and Western Europe Branch in the former International Economics Division and chief of the Developed Market Economies Branch in the Agriculture and Trade Analysis Division.

Christensen has written and spoken widely on food policy and development issues, both inside



CAROLYN RILEY

and outside USDA. She received two ERS Administrator's Special Merit Awards, one for her contribution to and management of an ERS program of analysis of the food problems and prospects in sub-Saharan Africa, and one for program effectiveness and improvement.

Bohall Is New CED Branch Chief

Robert Bohall is the new chief, Livestock, Dairy, and Poultry Branch, Commodity Economics Division.



CAROLYN RILEY

Bohall, who worked with livestock on his parents' farm in upstate New York, joined ERS in 1957 as a student trainee. In ERS, he has served as researcher, section leader, branch chief, deputy division director, and associate division director. He has worked in specialty crop analysis with emphasis on fruits, vegetables, and sweeteners, and has been involved in various supervisory and management roles with all facets of the ERS program, including outlook, staff analysis, research, recruitment, and administration. Bohall has also worked extensively with several regional committees of professional organizations, the land-grant universities, and the American and Northeastern Agricultural Economics Associations.

Bohall received a B.S. in agricultural economics from Cornell

[Continued on page 5.]

[Continued from page 4.]

U., an M.S. in agricultural economics from the U. of Connecticut, and a Ph.D. in economics from North Carolina State U. His performance has been recognized through numerous awards including USDA Certificates of Merit, ERS Administrator's Special Merit Awards, and USDA's Superior Service Award.

Price Is New ATAD Section Leader

Michael Price is the new leader, Aggregate Analysis Section, United States Agricultural Policy Branch, Agriculture and Trade Analysis Division. Price will be responsible for improving ERS's ability to analyze the effects of changes in domestic and foreign agricultural policies on U.S. agriculture.

In 1979, Price joined ERS to work on the development of an econometric model of the agricultural sector known as the food and agricultural policy simulator (FAPSIM). He has since been responsible for improving and updating the model, generating baseline projections with FAPSIM, and using the model to analyze different program options.

In addition to his work on FAPSIM, Price has published numerous articles in professional journals in the areas of theoretical and applied econometrics, and on U.S. farm policy.



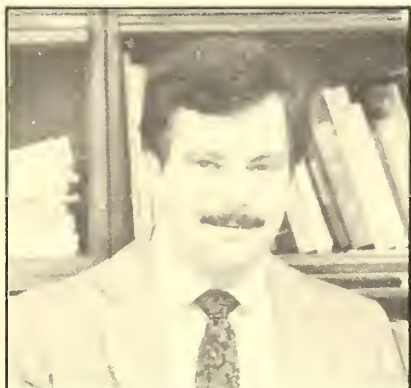
CAROLYN RILEY

Price received a B.A. degree in economics and mathematics from the U. of Virginia and a Ph.D. in economics from the U. of North Carolina.

Price received the ERS Administrator's Special Merit Award for the outstanding modeling support he provided to researchers throughout ERS. He also received two USDA Certificates of Merit, one for developing a food and agricultural policy system, and one for staff and service activities in model maintenance, documentation, and adaptation.

Hasha Is New CED Cross-Commodity Analyst

Gene Hasha is the new cross-commodity analyst, Commodity Trade Analysis Branch, Commodity



CAROLYN RILEY

Economics Division. Since joining ERS in 1972, Hasha has served as a country specialist for Southeast Asia, worked on European Community agricultural sector models, and served as ERS's international oilseeds analyst. Since 1979, he has been analyzing Western European agriculture and policies.

Hasha received B.A. and M.A. degrees in economics from the U. of Texas, followed by further study and research at the London School of

Economics. He received an ERS Administrator's Special Merit Award for critical analyses of the European Community's agricultural trade policies and practices.

Huang Is Named New CED Senior Economist

Kuo Huang is the new senior economist, Food Marketing and Consumption Economics Branch,



CAROLYN RILEY

Commodity Economics Division. Huang will be working with ERS economists in linking consumer demand relationships with supply and demand relationships for food marketing industries.

Since joining ERS in 1979, Huang's research has focused on consumers' demand for foods, and on related quantitative research. He has authored numerous articles in several journals, including the *European Economic Review* and the *Journal of Business and Economic Statistics*. Huang's research on complete demand systems has been widely recognized.

Huang has an M.A. in statistics and a Ph.D. in agricultural economics from the U. of California (Berkeley) and a B.S. and M.S. in agricultural economics from National Taiwan U. He received the ERS Administrator's Excellence Award for research, the Southern Agricultural Economics Association's Distinguished

[Continued on page 6.]

[Continued from page 5.]

Professional Contributions Award, and the American Agricultural Economics Association's honorable mention for quality of research discovery.

Westcott is New CED Cross-Commodity Analyst

Paul Westcott is the new cross-commodity analyst, Crops Branch, Commodity Economics Division.



CAROLYN RILEY

He joined ERS in 1977 and has worked on retail food price research and analysis and on ERS's quarterly agricultural forecasting model.

Westcott has numerous publications on retail food prices, econometric modeling, farm programs, and various cross-commodity relationships in the agricultural sector.

Prior to joining ERS, Westcott served as a staff economist on the Council of Economic Advisers for 2 years. Westcott received B.S. and M.A. degrees in economics from the U. of Rochester. He received the ERS Administrator's Special Merit Award for economic analysis and research related to food prices.

Highlights of Staff Activities

Agriculture and Rural Economy Division

Mary Ahearn presented a paper, coauthored with Helen Jensen (Iowa State U.), on the linkage between farm operator households and farm businesses at a Southern Economic Association meeting, in Nashville, Tenn. • **Charles Barnard** organized the program and served as chairman for a North Central Regional Research Committee meeting on "Agricultural Land Values," in Minneapolis, Minn.

• **Jacqueline Bhola** presented a paper on "The Importance of Nonfarm Income to Southeastern Black Farmers in the 1980's" at a Professional Agricultural Workers Conference, in Tuskegee, Ala.

• **Douglas Bowers** presented a paper on "Pennsylvania Legislators in Transition, 1815-50," at a Pennsylvania Historical Association meeting, in Lancaster, Pa. • **Lowell Dyson** participated in a symposium on "Congress, the Presidency, the Judiciary, and National Security: A View from the Bicentennial of the Constitution" at the National Defense U., in Washington, D.C.

• **Linda Ghelfi** presented a speech comparing poverty among all black family householders in the nonmetro South with the poverty among black farm operators, at a Future of Blacks in Agriculture session of a Congressional Black Caucus Legislative Weekend, in Washington, D.C. • **Stephen Koenig** participated in a North Central Regional Research Committee meeting on "Financing Agriculture in a Changing Environment: Macro, Market, Policy, and Management Issues," in Denver, Colo. • **Norman Reid** spoke about recent major trends in

the economic performance and population growth and decline of rural areas at a National Governors Association meeting, in Denver, Colo. • **Sherman Robinson** (visiting professor, U. of California, Berkeley) and **Jerry Schluter** participated in a Global Agricultural Trade Study meeting sponsored by the Australian Centre for International Economics, in San Diego, Calif. • **Robinson** also presented a paper on "The Effect of Trade Liberalization in Agriculture on the U.S. Economy: Projections to 1991," coauthored by Irma Adelman (U. of California, Berkeley), **Kenneth Hanson**, and **Maureen Kilkenny**, at the Global Agricultural Trade Study meeting, in San Diego, Calif. • **Peggy Ross** conducted a seminar on "Poverty and Policy Issues in Rural Areas," at the U.S. Dept. of Commerce's Bureau of Labor Statistics, in Washington, D.C. • **Joel Schor** chaired a panel on "Biotechnology, Food, and the Environment" at a symposium on "Agriculture, Food and Human Values," sponsored by the U. of Florida, in Orlando, Fla. • and **Vivian Wiser** was a member of the People-to-People agricultural economics delegation to China.

Agriculture and Trade Analysis Division

Richard Brown reported on an ERS fruit and vegetable study in the Caribbean countries to U.S. Agency for International Development mission officers from Latin America, in Harpers Ferry, W.Va. • **Mary Burfisher**, **Anwarul Hoque**, **Edward Overton**, and **David Stallings** visited numerous U.N. organizations, government agencies, universities, and research institutes to develop an inventory of African household surveys and obtain information on current research and indicators used to measure the impact of development assistance on socioeconomic

progress, in Europe • **William Coyle** presented a paper assessing agricultural policy changes in the Japan and the United States at a conference jointly sponsored by the Carnegie Council on Ethics and International Affairs and Japan International Agricultural Council, in Tokyo, Japan • **George Gardner** presented a paper on "World Market Implications of Egypt's Cotton Export-Import Policy Changes," at an African Studies Association meeting, in Denver, Colo. • **Carol Goodloe** participated in a conference on U.S.-Canada free trade at the Institute for International Economics, in Washington, D.C. • **Suchada Langley, Carl Mabbs-Zeno, and Vernon Roningen** presented a progress report on ERS's trade liberalization research at an International Agricultural Trade Research Consortium meeting, in Airlie, Va. • **Carl Mabbs-Zeno and Nicole Ballenger (CED)** spoke on developing countries in the current round of multilateral trade negotiations, at a Society for International Development meeting, in Washington, D.C. • **David Stallings** presented a paper (coauthored with Mathew Shane) on "LDC Debt and U.S. Agricultural Trade," at a seminar on The Future of Grain Exports, sponsored by Kansas State U., in Wichita, Kans. • and **Kelley White** served as the U.S. cochair of the Inputs and Allied Technology Working Group meeting of the Indo-U.S. Subcommission on Agriculture, in New Delhi, India.

Commodity Economics Division

Nicole Ballenger, Barbara Chattin, Gene Hasha, and Ronald Trostle participated in an International Agricultural Trade Research Consortium meeting, in Airlie, Va. • **Boyd Buxton and Catherine Greene** participated in a Southern Regional Research Committee meeting on

"Competition and Change in the Fruit and Vegetable Production and Marketing Systems," in St. Petersburg, Fla. • **Boyd Buxton, Catherine Greene, Shannon Hamm, and Frederick Hoff** participated in a Produce Marketing Association Convention and Exposition, in Anaheim, Calif. • **Buxton** also presented a paper on the changes in the U.S. fruit and vegetable markets and their implications for importers, at an international seminar on fruits and vegetables sponsored by the Government of Argentina, in Buenos Aires, Argentina • **Cecil Davison, Linwood Hoffman, William Lin, Keith Menzie, and Scott Sanford** presented papers at a Southern Agricultural Economics Association meeting, in New Orleans, La. • **Hoffman** also presented a paper on the impact of oat imports on the U.S. oat industry at a Milling Oats Improvement Association meeting, in Minneapolis, Minn. • **Edward Glade, Scott Sanford, and James Schaub** presented papers and **Samuel Evans** moderated a panel on "Recent Growth in World Cotton Consumption and Trade—New Era or Aberration?" at a Cotton Economics and Marketing Conference, in New Orleans, La. • **T.Q. Hutchinson** participated in a Southern Regional Research Committee meeting on "Marketing Systems for Grains and Soybeans," in New Orleans, La. • **John Lawler** participated in an American Sheep Industry Convention, in San Antonio, Tex. • **Mack Leath** participated in a North Central Regional Research Committee meeting on "Marketing and Delivery of Quality Cereals and Oilseeds in Domestic and Foreign Markets," in St. Louis, Mo. • **Janet Livezey** presented a paper at a Rice Outlook Conference and a Texas Farm Bureau meeting, in San Antonio, Tex. • **James Schaub** presented a paper on the peanut situation and outlook at a Virginia/Carolina Peanut Association meeting, in

Suffolk, Va. • **Robert Skinner** presented a paper on the cotton outlook at a Mississippi Farm Bureau meeting, in Starkville, Miss. • **Larry van Meir** participated in an Industry Crop/Livestock Outlook Conference, in Chicago, Ill. • and **van Meir** also participated in a Chicago Board of Trade seminar, in Chicago, Ill.

Resources and Technology Division

Joseph Barse participated in a Grasshopper Integrated Pest Management Technical Working Group meeting, in Boise, Idaho • **Leonard Bull, Timothy Osborn, and Parveen Setia** presented papers at a Farming Systems Research Symposium, in Fayetteville, Ark. • **Bradley Crowder, Michael Dicks, Wen Huang, Richard Magleby, Parveen Setia, Roger Strohbehn, and Edwin Young** presented papers at a National Symposium on Conservation Systems—Optimum Erosion Control at Least Cost, sponsored by the American Society of Agricultural Engineers, in Chicago, Ill. • **Stephen Crutchfield and Thomas Holmes** participated in a U.S. Environmental Protection Agency meeting on development of a national survey to determine the extent of pesticide contamination of drinking water in public and private water wells, in Washington, D.C. • **Crutchfield** also conducted a seminar on recent findings concerning the off-farm effects of agricultural nonpoint pollution on commercial fisheries, at Cornell U. • **Stan Daberkow** presented the situation and outlook for U.S. agricultural inputs at a meeting of the Indo-U.S. Subcommission on Agriculture, in New Delhi, India • **Peter DeBraal** spoke on corporate and foreign ownership of U.S. farmland to the Agricultural Task Force of a Midwest Legislative Conference, in Chicago, Ill.

[Continued on page 8.]

Address Correction Requested
Forwarding Postage Guaranteed

[Continued from page 7.]

• **Richard Magleby** and **Parveen Setia** presented a joint paper on measuring physical and economic impacts of controlling water pollution in a watershed, at an International Symposium on Applied Lake and Water Management, in Chicago, Ill. • **Setia** also conducted a seminar on "Soil Conservation Under Uncertainty: A U.S. Perspective" and met with staff of the International Crop Research Institute for Semi-Arid Tropics and the Central Research Institute for Dryland Agriculture, in Hyderabad, India, and the Indian Agricultural Research Institute, in New Delhi, India • **John Miranowski** presented a paper on the economic effects of the Conservation Reserve Program in an Agriculture at the Crossroads conference, jointly sponsored by the Soil and Water Conservation Society, U.S. Dept. of Agriculture,

and Joyce Foundation, in Washington, D.C. • **Miranowski** also discussed environmental issues in the 1990's and their implications for structural change in the distribution of agricultural inputs at an American Marketing Association conference on The 80's Experience...A Guide for the 90's? in Denver, Colo. • **Susan Offutt** and **Robbin Shoemaker** conducted a seminar on the linkages between farm programs, technological change, and land's share of the value of production, at the U. of Maryland • **Timothy Osborn** was presented the American Water Resources Association's W.R. Boggess Award for outstanding paper published in the *Water Resource Bulletin* • **Marc Ribaud** conducted a seminar discussing national off-site benefits, reductions in soil erosion, and nonpoint source pollution, at the U. of California

(Davis) • and **Edwin Young** conducted a seminar at the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency on economic evaluation of five Rural Clean Water Program projects and their implications for agricultural pollution control, in Washington, D.C.

Office of the Administrator

Edward Reinsel participated in an Office of Management and Budget task force on redesign of household surveys, in Washington, D.C. • **Bob Robinson** participated in the Australian National Outlook Conference, in Canberra, and an Australian Agricultural Economic Society meeting, in Melbourne • and **Robinson** also participated in the Far East, South Asia, and Pacific Counselor/Attaché Conference on "United States/Asian Agricultural Trade Policy Issues," in Singapore.